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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/500,126	12/01/2004	Gang-Hoon Lee	HI-0205	7383

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EXAMINER

VOGELBACKER, MARK T

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3677

DATE MAILED: 11/09/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/500,126	Applicant(s) LEE ET AL.	
	Examiner Mark T. Vogelbacker	Art Unit 3677	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 3/9/2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 6/25/04 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>6/25/04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claims 1-7 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Regarding claim 1, line 12, the term “is” following “members” should be changed to “are” to account for the plurality of “members”.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claims 1-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding claim 1, the phrase “said rotation shaft” in lines 10 and 13 is confusing. Earlier, in line 4, multiple “rotation shafts” are claimed. Are there multiple rotation shafts or merely a single rotation shaft? Similarly, the phrase “said braking housing” in line 14 is confusing. Earlier, in line 9, multiple “braking housings” are claimed. Are there multiple braking housings or merely a single braking housing? Also, the scope of claim 1 is confusing. From the preamble, it is understood that “a hinge” is being claimed. However, line 2 of the claim states that a fixed plate and a pivotal plate are respectively “fastened to the flat visual

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display". It is not clear whether Applicant attempt to claim a hinge along or a hinge-display combination.

Regarding claim 2, line 2, the phrase "provided at both ends" is unclear. Structurally, the ends of the fixed plate are not properly defined.

Regarding claim 8, the phrase "said fixed plate" in lines 4 and 6 is confusing. Earlier, in line 2, multiple "fixed plates" are claimed. Are there multiple fixed plates or merely a single fixed plate? Similarly, the phrase "said pivotal plates" in lines 5 and 6 is confusing. Earlier, in line 2, a single "pivotal plate" is claimed. Are there multiple pivotal plates or merely a single pivotal plate? The phrase "said rotation shaft" in line 10 is confusing. Earlier, in line 4, multiple "rotation shafts" are claimed. Are there multiple rotation shafts or merely a single rotation shaft? The phrase "said braking housing" in line 12 is confusing. Earlier, in line 9, multiple "braking housings" are claimed. Are there multiple braking housings or merely a single braking housing? Also, the scope of claim 8 is confusing. From the preamble, it is understood that "a hinge" is being claimed. However, line 2 of the claim states that a fixed plate and a pivotal plate are respectively "fastened to the flat visual display". It is not clear whether Applicant attempt to claim a hinge along or a hinge-display combination.

Regarding claim 9, the phrase "each of said pivotal plates" is confusing. Earlier, in line 2 of claim 8, a single "pivotal plate" is claimed. Are there multiple pivotal plates or merely a single pivotal plate?

Regarding claim 16, the phrase "said fixed plate" in line 2 is confusing. Earlier, in line 2 of claim 8, multiple "fixed plates" are claimed. Are there multiple fixed plates or merely a single fixed plate?

Regarding claim 17, the phrase "said fixed plate" in lines 3 and 6 is confusing. Earlier, in line 2 of claim 8, multiple "fixed plates" are claimed. Are there multiple fixed plates or merely a single fixed plate?

Regarding claim 18, the scope of the claim is confusing. From the preamble it is understood that "a hinge" is being claimed. However, line 2 of the claim states that a fixed plate and a pivotal plate are respectively "fastened to the flat visual display". It is not clear whether Applicant attempt to claim a hinge alone or a hinge-display combination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1-5, 7, 18 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Wang et al., GB-2,266,920 A.

Wang discloses the invention as claimed, including a fixed plate (34), pivotal plates (22), rotation shafts (30), braking members (10) and braking housings (20). As seen in Figure 4, the fixed plate (24) is fastened to a flat visual display and the pivotal plates (22) are fastened to a supporting portion for straightening the flat visual display. Further, the braking members (10) are cylindrically configured and inserted in the circular contact face between the outer circumference of the rotation shafts (30) and the inner circumference of the braking housing (20). Pivotal plates (22) are provided at both ends of the fixed plate (34).

Regarding claim 18, the braking housing (25) is fixed at one side (27) for generating braking force when the pivotal plates (22) are pivoted.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang et al., GB-2,266,920 A, in view of Yang, US-5,467,504.

Wang discloses the invention as claimed, but fails to mention a washer. Yang teaches the invention as claimed, including washers (60, 60') in the contact face between the rotation shaft (33) and the pivotal plates (12, 12') to prevent removal of the hinge plate. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the Wang device to include a washer, as taught by Yang, to prevent removal of the pivotal plates (12, 12') and the fixed plate (31) (col 3, lns 42-47).

8. Claims 8, 9 and 12-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang et al., GB-2,266,920 A, in view of Okada et al., US-5,109,570.

Wang discloses the invention as claimed, including a pivotal plate (34), fixed plates (22), rotation shafts (30), braking members (10) and braking housings (20). As seen in Figure 4, the pivotal plate (24) is fastened to a flat visual display and the fixed plates (22) are fastened to a supporting portion for straightening the flat visual display. Further, the braking members (10),

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which are made of engineering plastic (pg 3, ln 13), are cylindrically configured and inserted in the circular contact face between the outer circumference of the rotation shafts (30) and the inner circumference of the braking housing (20). However, Wang fails to mention stoppers, stopper guides or anti-release members. Okada teaches stopper guides (14b, 14c) and stoppers (13). The stopper guides (14b, 14c), which are integrally provided on the braking housing (14d), have a projection-receiving groove in the outer circumference. The stoppers (13) have a folded stopper projection (13d) fitted around the rotation shaft (11a). Further, Okada teaches anti-release members (17), with multiple folded faces, to stably support the stopper (13). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the Wang device to include stopper guides and stoppers, as taught by Okada, to prevent rotation of the display device past a desired state (col 4, lns 45-50).

9. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang et al., GB-2,266,920 A, in view of Okada et al., US-5,109,570, and further in view of Yang, US-5,467,504.

As mentioned above, Wang and Okada disclose the invention as claimed, but fail to mention a washer provided in the contact face between the stopper guide and the stopper. Yang teaches the invention as claimed, including washers (60, 60'). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the Wang and Okada device to include a washer, as taught by Yang, to prevent removal of the pivotal plates (12, 12') and the fixed plate (31) (col 3, lns 42-47).

Allowable Subject Matter

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10. Claims 11 and 17 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims and rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office Action.

Conclusion

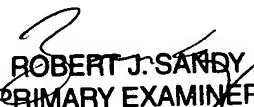
11. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark Vogelbacker whose telephone number is (571) 272-1648. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am-5:30 pm Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Judy Swann can be reached on (571) 272-7075. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MTV


ROBERT J. SANDY
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Mark Vogelbacker
Assistant Examiner
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